



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/842,922	04/27/2001	Fumito Takemoto	2091-0241P	8395
2292	7590	08/12/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			HANNETT, JAMES M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	7
DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/842,922

Applicant(s)

TAKEMOTO, FUMITO

Examiner

James M Hannett

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/27/01
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: An image processing method for processing image data according to processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera used.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1: Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by USPN 6,222,613 Haraguchi et al.

2: As for Claim 1, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, Lines 62-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-17 an image processing method for obtaining processed image data by carrying out

Art Unit: 2612

image processing on image data obtained by a digital camera according to default processing conditions and processing conditions corresponding to a model of the digital camera, the image processing method comprising the step of: customizing the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera.

3: In regards to Claim 2, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 11, Lines 13-16 the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera include density correction processing conditions, and color correction processing conditions each corresponding to the model of the digital camera.

4: As for Claim 3, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, lines 62-67 the default processing conditions are customized by selection from customized default processing condition menus generated in advance. The default processing conditions are viewed by the examiner as the image processing steps that will be performed such as density and color processing. The customized default processing conditions are viewed as the color and density processing conditions that are customized according to the type of digital camera. Haraguchi et al teaches that the processing conditions are predetermined and stored in memory for each type of digital camera. The stored list of processing conditions for each digital camera is viewed as menus generated in advance.

5: In regards to Claim 4, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, lines 62-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-30 the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera are customized by selection from customized model processing condition menus generated in advance. The customized default processing conditions are viewed as the color and density processing conditions that are customized according to the type of digital camera. Haraguchi et

Art Unit: 2612

al teaches that the processing conditions are predetermined and stored in memory for each type of digital camera. The stored list of processing conditions for each digital camera is viewed as menus generated in advance.

6: As for Claim 5, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, Lines 62-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-17 and in Figure 5 an image processing apparatus for obtaining processed image data by carrying out image processing on image data obtained by a digital camera according to default processing conditions and processing conditions corresponding to a model of the digital camera. The default processing conditions are viewed by the examiner as the image processing steps that will be performed such as density and color processing. The processing conditions corresponding to a model of the digital camera are viewed as the color and density processing conditions that are customized according to the type of digital camera. Haraguchi et al teaches the image processing apparatus comprising: Haraguchi et al teaches default processing condition setting means for customizing the default processing conditions. The default processing condition setting means is viewed by the examiner as the circuitry and software that enables the processing conditions to be modified according to the stored image processing conditions for each type of digital camera stored in memory (73). Haraguchi et al teaches model processing condition setting means for customizing the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera. Haraguchi et al teaches image processing means (70) for carrying out the image processing based on the default processing conditions (73) set by the default processing condition setting means and the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera set by the model processing condition setting means.

Art Unit: 2612

7: In regards to Claim 6, Haraguchi et al teaches compensating parameters for different cameras are stored in the processor in advance. Haraguchi et al teaches that these parameters can be used if an image comes in that was taken by a particular camera. It is inherent in the system of Haraguchi et al that the compensating parameters have a name. If they didn't, they could not be selectively read out.

8: As for Claim 7, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 11, Lines 13-16 the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera include density correction processing conditions, and color correction processing conditions each corresponding to the model of the digital camera.

9: In regards to Claim 8, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, lines 62-67 the default processing conditions are customized by selection from customized default processing condition menus generated in advance. The default processing conditions are viewed by the examiner as the image processing steps that will be performed such as density and color processing. The customized default processing conditions are viewed as the color and density processing conditions that are customized according to the type of digital camera. Haraguchi et al teaches that the processing conditions are predetermined and stored in memory for each type of digital camera. The stored list of processing conditions for each digital camera is viewed as menus generated in advance.

10: As for Claim 9, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, lines 62-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-30 the model processing condition setting means sets the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera by selection from customized model processing condition menus generated in advance. The customized default processing conditions are viewed as the

Art Unit: 2612

color and density processing conditions that are customized according to the type of digital camera. Haraguchi et al teaches that the processing conditions are predetermined and stored in memory for each type of digital camera. The stored list of processing conditions for each digital camera is viewed as menus generated in advance.

11: In regards to Claim 10, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, Lines 62-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-17 a computer readable recording medium storing a program to cause a computer to execute an image processing method for obtaining processed image data by carrying out image processing on image data obtained by a digital camera according to default processing conditions and processing conditions corresponding to a model of the digital camera, the program comprising the procedure of: Customizing the processing conditions corresponding to the model of the digital camera.

12: As for Claim 11, Haraguchi et al teaches on Column 10, Lines 62-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-17 an image processing condition setting method for setting image processing conditions used for carrying out image processing on image data obtained by a digital camera, the image processing condition setting method comprising the step of: Customizing processing conditions corresponding to a model of the digital camera.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. USPN 5,917,578 Nakamura teaches an apparatus for a photographic process that reads data pertaining to a camera type; US 2002/0057460 Shiota et al teaches a photo-finishing system; USPN 6,710,896 Takaika teaches an image processing apparatus that collects data pertinent to a camera type; US 2003/0189730 Enomoto teaches an image processing device.

Art Unit: 2612

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James M. Hannett
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

JMH
August 2, 2004



NGOC-YEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER